

NEWS

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CDHD OFFERS FREE BACK-TO-SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS

It's expensive enough to get your children ready to go back to school, so the Central District Health Department (CDHD) is offering free vaccinations for school-age children at its three offices and rural community clinics during the entire month of August. The vaccinations available will be those recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC.) Parents will be required to make appointments so their children can take advantage of the free vaccinations.

"Traditionally we hold a one-day back-to-school vaccine clinic," Said Immunizations Program Manager Cindy Howarth. "But not everyone can take advantage of a one-day clinic. We thought we could serve more people by offering free vaccines throughout the month of August and help those families already pinched by other back-to-school expenses."

The number of vaccines recommended by the CDC for school children continues to grow. Children and adolescents may need to get as many as a dozen different vaccines before they're done with school, many requiring multiple doses.

CDHD will offer the following CDC-recommended vaccines free of charge during the month of August:

- Hepatitis B
- Inactivate poliovirus (IPV)
- Haemophilus Influenzae Type B (Hib)
- Measles, Mumps, rubella (MMR)

- MORE -

Back-To-School Vaccinations – Add One

- Pneumococcal conjugate (PCV)
- Diphtheria, tetanus and acellular pertussis (DtaP)
- Tetanus diphtheria and acellular pertussis (Tdap)
- Varicella (chickenpox)
- Influenza
- Meningococcal, or bacterial meningitis (MCV4) (except for shortage groups)

Human papillomavirus (HPV), the new vaccine designed to protect against cervical cancer, will be available for purchase, but not for free.

For more information on immunizations and to set an appointment for your children call the CDHD office nearest you:

Ada County: 327-7450

Elmore County: 587-4407

Valley County: 630-8002

Boise County: 327-7450

Immunization information is also available on the Central District Health Department website: www.cdhd.idaho.gov.

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